

THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS  
RESOLUTION 14-19

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS, MARYLAND APPOINTING ANTHONY N. REASE AS CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE FOREST HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Introduced By: Mayor Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 33-66 of the Charter, all department heads shall be recommended by the Town Administrator for appointment by the Mayor with approval of the Council; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 33-18 of the Charter of the Town of Forest Heights (the "Charter") the Mayor, with the approval of the Council, shall appoint the heads of all offices, departments, and agencies of the Town government as established by the Charter or by ordinance and all office, department, and agency heads shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and Council, and all subordinate officers and employees of the offices, departments, and agencies of the Town government shall be appointed and removed by the Mayor with the consent of the Council, in accordance with rules and regulations of any merit system which may be adopted by the Council; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 23.1 of the Town Ordinance Code, the appointment of the Chief of Police shall be approved by ordinance or resolution, and the Chief of Police shall assist the Mayor in the establishment and maintenance of a Police Department and furthermore the power to manage and operate the Town's Police Department shall be vested in the Chief of Police, subject to approval and oversight by the Mayor and Council, and it shall be the function of the Forest Heights Police Department to enforce the laws of the Town and, when appropriate and lawful, the Laws of Prince George's County and the State of Maryland, and the Chief of Police shall ensure that the police department adequately and competently fulfills its function; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to General Order No. 2016-1, Chapter 2, Section 1 (Organizational Structure), the commanding officer of the Forest Heights Police Department (FHPD) is the Chief with the rank of colonel; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to said General Order No. 2016-1, Chapter 2, Section 1, in the absence of the Chief and the Deputy Chief, and with the Mayor and Town Council's approval, a Staff Sergeant may serve as Acting Chief and will administer the affairs and operations of the FHPD and will take managerial action to promote the effective and efficient performance of its responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to said General Order No. 2016-1, Chapter 2, Section 3 (Personnel), when an employee is designated to fill a vacant position in an acting capacity his permanent position will not, unless specifically designated by the Chief, be considered vacant,

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for example, if a FHPD officer is designated a sergeant in an acting capacity the officer position will not automatically be filled by an additional acting position; and

**WHEREAS**, after graduating in December 2013 from the Municipal Police Academy at Prince George's Community College, where he served as the elected class president, Anthony Rease was hired as a police officer (Private 1) full time on February 3, 2014 at a salary of \$37,190.40; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Resolution 55-17 passed on July 19, 2017, Mr. Rease, having previously resigned from the FHPD to take a position with another municipal police department, was appointed as Ombudsman of the Town's Speed Camera Program to serve part time without benefits in said position at an hourly wage of \$20.00 for no more than 20 hours per week; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Resolution 06-18 passed on February 5, 2018, Mr. Rease was rehired as a police officer at the rank of Staff Sergeant with an annual salary of \$46,000 while retaining the office and part-time salary of Ombudsman; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the FY '19 Budget approved by ordinance on June 7, 2018, SSGT Rease's annual salary was set at \$47,380.00; and

**WHEREAS**, SSGT Rease was sworn in by the Mayor as Acting Lieutenant on October 18, 2018, but remained compensated at the previously established salary for SSGT; and

**WHEREAS**, after the resignation of the former Chief, A/LT. Rease was sworn in by the Mayor as the Acting Chief of Police on November 28, 2018 with the rank of Acting Colonel, but remained compensated at the previously established salary for SSGT; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Resolution 75-18 passed on December 19, 2018, Acting Chief Rease relinquished his duties and compensation as Ombudsman to a subordinate officer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council find that Acting Chief Rease has the requisite experience, education and knowledge to serve as Chief of Police and it is in the best interest of the Town to employ, appoint and thereby equitably compensate Mr. Rease as Chief of Police.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, and enacted that the Town Council hereby approves the appointment of Anthony N. Rease as Chief of Police of the Forest Heights Police Department to serve in said position and wear the rank insignia of four (4) stars at an annual salary hereby authorized by Council of \$60,000.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that said appointment shall be deemed permanent subject to Section 2.4 of the Town Code and Town employment policies from the effective date of this Resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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PASSED this 4th day of March 2019.

**APPROVED:** By Resolution of the Town Council of The Town of Forest Heights, Maryland

ROLL CALL VOTE

YEA/NAY/ABSTAIN/ABSENT

MUHAMMAD

Yea

KENNEDY II

Yea

MCLAURIN

Abstain

BARNES

Yea

HINES

Yea

WASHINGTON

Yea

BROWNSON

Nay

ATTEST:

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

**SIGNATURE ON FILE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherletta Hawkins, Town Clerk

**SIGNATURE ON FILE**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad, Mayor

**SIGNATURE ON FILE**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Calvin Washington, Council President

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify, as the duly appointed Town Clerk of the Town of Forest Heights, Maryland, that on the 4th day of March 2019 with 5 Aye votes and 1 Nay votes the aforesaid Resolution 12-19 passed.

**SIGNATURE ON FILE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherletta Hawkins, Town Clerk